

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: WPS ENERGY SERVICES, INC.	DOCKET NO. CGP-04-1
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**ORDER APPROVING APPLICATION AND ISSUING CERTIFICATE TO PROVIDE
LARGE VOLUME SERVICE**

(Issued July 30, 2004)

On June 7, 2004, WPS Energy Services, Inc. (WPS), filed an application for a certificate as a competitive natural gas provider (CNGP) with the Utilities Board (Board). The application was identified as Docket No. CGP-04-1. The Board's rules at 199 IAC 2.2(18) and 19.14 establish the filing requirements for an application for a certificate. Subrule 19.14(4) states that an applicant will be notified when its application is complete and the 90-day review period begins. On June 10, 2004, the Board notified WPS that the application was complete and the 90-day review period had begun.

WPS is a Wisconsin corporation and is a wholly-owned subsidiary of WPS Resources Corporation. WPS is a corporation in good standing in the state of Wisconsin and has a Certificate of Authority to transact business in Iowa. WPS does not have any affiliates providing competitive natural gas services in Iowa or other states. WPS seeks a certificate to provide service to large volume customers only, as defined in subrule 199 IAC 14.4.

Iowa Code § 476.87 requires that a competitive natural gas provider or aggregator must reasonably demonstrate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver the services it proposes to offer. The filing requirements of rules 2.2(18) and 19.14 specify the information necessary to review the managerial, technical, and financial abilities of the applicant.

WPS's application contains the professional background information for its principal managerial and technical personnel. It appears that WPS's staff possesses knowledge of and experience in various areas of the natural gas industry, including marketing of natural gas service. WPS indicates that it only intends to serve large volume customers in Iowa and WPS did not file the financial and operational information required for a certificate to serve small volume customers. Additionally, WPS expressed its commitment to comply with all applicable conditions of certification contained in 199 IAC 19.14(5) and (6). WPS also acknowledged that failure to comply with all applicable conditions may result in the revocation of its certificate.

Based on a review of WPS's application, the Board finds that WPS has reasonably demonstrated that it possesses the appropriate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver the services it proposes to offer. The Board finds that WPS's application substantially complies with the filing requirements of Board rules. WPS will be issued a CNGP certificate to provide service to large volume customers as defined in 199 IAC 19.14(1). The Board finds

that no additional conditions should be placed on the certificate. To provide service to small volume customers, WPS will need to file an application to amend its certificate and the information required by 199 IAC 2.2(18) and 19.14(6).

The Board will issue a certificate to WPS to provide service to large volume customers, identified as Certificate No. G-0017, concurrently with this order. WPS will be subject to the reporting requirements contained in 199 IAC 19.14(5)"c," once the certificate is issued.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1 The application for a certificate as a competitive natural gas service provider to serve large volume customers in Iowa filed by WPS Energy Services, Inc., on June 7, 2004, is approved.
2. WPS Energy Services, Inc., shall comply with the filing requirements of 199 IAC 19.14(5).
3. Certificate No. G-0017 shall be issued to WPS Energy Services, Inc.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 30th day of July, 2004.